REMARKS

The present application included claims 1-36. Claims 18-33 were withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-17 and 34-36 were rejected. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 10 and 34 have been amended, while claims 7, 15 and 18-33 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claim 37 has been added. **No fee is believed due with respect to claim 37 because it takes the place of canceled claim 18.**

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitations of previously pending claim 7, while independent claim 10 has been amended to recite the limitations of previously pending claim 15. Additionally, independent claim 34 has been amended to recite similar limitations.

The independent claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by AU 199944623 ("Hankin"). Hankin discloses the following:

> A system for remotely enabling a pool table, the system comprising a console located near the table, the console including a payment mechanism and a wireless communication mechanism, a pool table able to communicate with the console in a wireless fashion and also including a controllable ball release, wherein upon payment being made at the console, the console communicates with the table, which enables the ball release to release balls for play.

Hankin at Abstract. As noted above, the console communicates with the table. Hankin does not describe, teach or suggest, however, that the table or the console is powered through wireless signals. In fact, Hankin specifically discloses that the console and table are powered through standard power sources:

> In regard to the aspect of electrical power, the remote console 100 is powered by means of a power supply 134 through a line 132, which power supply 134 is in turn connected to a mains supply by

> means of a cable 136. The remote console 100 therefore is, in the present embodiment, powered by mains supply voltage. In contrast, the table 102 is powered by an on-board battery 170, via a line 168.

Hankin at page 5, lines 15-19.

Hankin does not describe, teach or suggest "wherein at least one of said remote activation assembly and said activation-sensing unit further comprises an antenna **that wirelessly receives power signals from a commercial radio station**," as recited in claim 1, as amended; **"providing power** to at least one of the remote activation assembly and activation-sensing unit **through signals received from a commercial radio station**," as recited in claim 10, as amended; or "wherein at least one of said remote activation assembly and said activation-sensing unit **are powered through signals received from a commercial radio station**," as recited in claim 34, as amended. Thus, Hankin does not anticipate, nor render unpatentable, claims 1, 10, 34 or any of the claims that depend therefrom. For at least the reasons discussed above, these claims should be in condition for allowance.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hankin in view of U.S. 5,026,053 ("Paterson"). Paterson discloses a system and method in which pool balls are detected as they pass into a pocket. In particular, Paterson discloses the following:

> Signals for scoring and or displays will be generated by a ball falling into a pocket 24-34 and tripping switch mechanism 46. Switch 46 may be a photoelectric device which, when the light beam is broken by a ball passing through the opening, causes an 'on' condition and generates a signal. Alternatively, the object or ball detection device or switch 46 may be an electro-mechanical unit which generates a signal when a ball falls on it. Also, the ball detection means could be a magnetic constituent within the balls itself which activates the switch mechanism.

Paterson at column 2, line 68 to column 3, line 10. Paterson is merely concerned with detecting balls as they fall into the pockets. Paterson does not describe a system for discriminating or distinguishing between the balls.

Neither Hankin, nor Paterson, describes, teaches or suggests "wherein each of said pool balls includes an embedded detectable device that **outputs a unique signal for each of said pool balls**, and wherein said ball detection sensor detects said embedded detectable devices as said pool balls pass by said ball detection sensor, and wherein said ball detection sensor relays a data signal to said scoring processor as said pool balls pass by said ball detection sensor, **said scoring processor distinguishing among each of said pool balls based on the unique signals received**," as recited in claims 2 and 37. The proposed combination of Hankin and Paterson does not render claims 2 or 37 unpatentable for at least these reasons. Thus, these claims should be in condition for allowance for at least these additional reasons.

In general, the Office Action makes various statements regarding the claims and the cited references that are now moot in light of the above. Thus, the Applicants will not address such statements at the present time. The Applicants expressly reserve the right, however, to challenge such statements in the future should the need arise (e.g., if such statements should become relevant by appearing in a future claim rejection).

The Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims should be in condition for allowance for at least the reasons discussed above and request that the outstanding rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn. If the Examiner has any questions or the Applicants can be of any assistance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants.

As indicated above, no fee is believed due with respect to new claim 37, due to the fact

that it takes the place of canceled claim 18. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees, or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,

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